



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

U.S. Geological Survey

[GX16CD00B951000

Agency Information Collection Activities: Request for Comments

AGENCY: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

ACTION: Notice of revision of a currently approved information collection, (1028-0097).

SUMMARY: We (the U.S. Geological Survey) are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) the information collection request (ICR) described below. To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and as part of our continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this ICR. This collection is scheduled to expire on October 31, 2016.

DATE: To ensure that your comments on this ICR are considered, OMB must receive them on or before [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Please submit written comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, via email:

(OIRA_SUBMISSION@omb.eop.gov); or by fax (202) 395-5806; and identify your submission with 'OMB Control Number 1028-0097 'State Water Resources Research Institute Program Annual Application, National Competitive Grants and Reporting'. Please also forward a copy of your comments and suggestions on this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 807, Reston, VA

20192 (mail); (703) 648–7195 (fax); or *gs-info_collections@usgs.gov* (email). Please reference ‘OMB Information Collection 1028–0097: ‘State Water Resources Research Institute Program Annual Application, National Competitive Grants and Reporting’ in all correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Earl Greene, Chief, Office of External Research, U.S. Geological Survey, 5522 Research Park Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228 (mail); 443-498-5505 (phone); *eagreene@usgs.gov* (email). You may also find information about this ICR at *www.reginfo.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended (42 USC 10301 et seq.), authorizes a research institute water resources or center in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marina Islands, and American Samoa. There are currently 54 such institutes, one in each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. The institute in Guam is a regional institute serving Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Each of the 54 institutes submits an annual application for an allotment grant, national competitive grants, and provides an annual report on its activities under the grant. The State Water Resources Research Institute Program issues an annual call for applications from the institutes to support plans to promote research, training, information dissemination, and other activities meeting the needs of the States and Nation. The State Water Resources Research Institute Program also issues a second annual call for competitive grants to focus on water problems and issues of a regional or interstate

nature beyond those of concern only to a single State. The U.S. Geological Survey has been designated as the administrator of the provisions of the Act.

II. Data

OMB Control Number: 1028-0097

Form Number: NA

Title: State Water Resources Research Institute Program Annual Application, National

Competitive Grants and Reporting

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Respondent Obligation: Necessary to obtain or retain benefits.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Description of Respondents The state water resources research institutes authorized by the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended, and listed at <http://water.usgs.gov/wrri/index.php>

Estimated Total Number of Annual Responses: We expect to receive 54 applications and award 54 grants per year from State and local governments for the annual applications. We also expect to receive 65 applications from individuals and award 4 grants per year for the national competitive grants.

Estimated Time per Response: 10,160 hours. This includes 100 hours per government applicant to prepare and submit the annual application; 40 hours per individual applicant to prepare and submit the national competitive grant application and 40 hours (total) per grantee to complete the annual reports.

Estimated Annual Burden Hours: 10,160.

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping “Non-Hour Cost” Burden: There are no “non-hour cost” burdens associated with this IC.

Public Disclosure Statement: The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Until the OMB approves a collection of information, you are not obliged to respond.

Comments: On **June 17, 2016**, we published a Federal Register notice (**81 CFR 39710**) announcing that we would submit this ICR to OMB for approval and soliciting comments. The comment period closed on **August 16, 2016**. We received **no** comments.

III. Request for Comments

We again invite comments concerning this ICR as to: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) how to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your personal mailing address, phone number, email address, or other personally identifiable information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personally identifiable information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us and the OMB in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done.

James Sayer

Information Collections Clearance Officer

Billing Code: 4338-11

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